Dr. Ron Sterling High School Principal

Johna Huse Elementary Principal Dwight Thomas Junior High Principal

Joy Rousseau Curriculum Director Sheron Keith, Kristy Thomas & Brenda Sterling
Counselors
PO 70 Arp Texas 75750

Dale Irwin
Athletics

PO 70, Arp, Texas 75750 (903) 859-8482 FAX: (903) 859-2621

11/25/2005

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 9300 East Hampton Drive Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Arp Independent School District: 105 School Street Arp, Tx. 75750

Billed Entity Number: 140715 Form 471 Application Number: 478148 FRN # 1346790, 1346653, 1346870

CC Docket No. 02-6 Request for Waiver

To Whom It May Concern:

Arp Independent School District (ISD) would like to request a waiver of program rule compliance due to extenuating circumstances. We have gone through the appeals process with the SLD and request special dispensation.

Arp ISD has participated in the Erate program since its inception. The District consists of approximately 900 students with over 54% economically disadvantaged. We are part of the SUPERNet Consortium which has recognized by Edlinc as an Erate success story on two separate occasions. The same person had always filed Arp ISD's and SUPERNet's forms, navigating the complicated process for all 17 districts. During last year's filing, a new person was employed in the coordinator's position. Rhonda Turner attended many training sessions and worked through the process, filing all online forms within the filing window. However, the follow-up certification form was postmarked outside the window.

Arp ISD recognizes that both the online filing and certification letter are to be filed within the filing window. The previous coordinator had filed these forms for so many years that she was able to certify online at the same time that the application was submitted. However, since Rhonda had not had one year of filing under her belt, she had to submit certification in writing. Though she successfully submitted all but one of the seventeen certification forms on time, the last one which had requests at the consortium level and for Arp ISD not only impacted all 17 districts for their shared services missed being postmarked on time, but all of Arp ISD's services. These services are vital to the curriculum

enhancement projects that the district has been using for five years. We offer virtual high school programs and extended learning opportunities through online courses.

This was a rookie mistake made by a new employee trying desperately to meet all the requirements of a complicated system. While Arp ISD understands the importance of program compliance, we would hope that the FCC would grant us one waiver for a mistake made that does not affect the substance of the request. The form was filed on time. Only the certification letter was outside the window. We respectfully request special consideration.

Sincerely,

Joy Rousseau

903) 859-240*8* 

Technology Director, Arp ISD SUPERNet Consortium Member

Enclosed Letter from Rhonda Turner USAC Response Letter



## Universal Service Administrative Company

Schools & Libraries Division

## Administrator's Decision on Appeal - Funding Year 2005-2006

August 30, 2005

Rhonda Turner SUPERNet Consortium 11937 US Highway 271 Tyler, TX 75708

Re: Applicant Name:

ARP INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DIST

Billed Entity Number:

140715 478148

Form 471 Application Number:

1346653, 1346790, 1346870

Funding Request Number(s): Decision Letter Date:

April 11, 2005

Date Appeal Postmarked:

June 21, 2005

Your Correspondence Received:

June 21, 2005

Our records show that your appeal was postmarked more than 60 days after the date your Form 471 Certification Postmarked Outside of Window Letter was issued, as shown above. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules require applicants to postmark appeals within 60 days of the date on the decision letter being appealed. FCC rules do not permit the Schools and Library Division (SLD) to consider your appeal.

If you believe there is a basis for further examination of your application, you may file an appeal with the FCC. You should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be POSTMARKED within 60 days of the above date on this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Further information and options for filing an appeal directly with the FCC can be found in the "Appeals Procedure" posted in the Reference Area of the SLD web site or by contacting the Client Service Bureau. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options.

Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Service Administrative Company

Rhonda Turner 11937 US Highway 271 Tyler, Texas 75708 903/877/7013 903/769/1996

Letter of Appeal Schools and Libraries Division Box 125 - Correspondence Unit 80 South Jefferson Road Whippany, NJ 07981

This letter is a desperate appeal to your decision regarding the Form 471 Application submitted on February 18, 2005 for the SUPERNet Consortium. I failed to submit the certification letter on time. I submitted four applications on the 18<sup>th</sup> and truly believed that this was the proper procedure. I made certain that they were done correctly and were submitted by the deadline. This can be verified by my online application. My certification letters followed outside the window. My mistake was that I did not realize the submission and certification had to be done within the window. This was my first year to do any work with erate and I am pleading for this appeal. It would be so unfair to ask the students and districts that I represent to be held accountable for my mistake. This money is essential to the continued improvement of technology in these districts.

Rhonda Tumer

SUPERNet Consortium

BEN: 223076

Application Number: 460573

Funding Year 2005 FORM 471 Certification Postmarked outside of window

Sincerely,

Rhonda Tumer

SUPERNet Consortium

Joy Rousseau Arp Independent School District 105 School Street Arp, TX 75750

Billed Entity Number: 140715 Form 471 Application Number: Form 486 Application Number: 478148